



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Grand Canyon News Release

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National Park Rangers Recover Body from Below Canyon Rim

Grand Canyon, Ariz. – On Saturday, February 16, 2008, National Park Service Rangers recovered the body of a man from approximately 300 feet below the rim at an undeveloped view point near the Buggeln picnic area on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park.

Rangers first noted what appeared to be an unattended vehicle in the Buggeln picnic area on Wednesday afternoon. Investigations on Thursday determined that the car was a rental and produced no evidence of recent activity near the vehicle. On Friday afternoon, a ground search was begun; and at an undeveloped view point near the picnic area, a chair, camera and other personal items believed to belong to the driver of the vehicle were located. Searchers reported conditions at the rim in this area as very icy.

A technical search team was then deployed in the area; and at approximately 5:00 pm on Friday, the body of a man in his early 40s was found about 300 feet below the rim. Due to oncoming darkness, the body was stabilized and plans were made to retrieve the body in the morning.

At approximately 11:00 am on Saturday morning, the man's body was recovered by a helicopter, long-line operation. The body has been taken to the Coconino County Medical Examiner's Office in Flagstaff, Arizona where an autopsy is pending. National Park Rangers are conducting an investigation into the man's death.

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